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ABSTRACT

As contact with the American Indian people increased, Indian words, expressions, and terms filtered into the English language. On the other hand, the Indians also borrowed words from those people who came to the New World. The Jicarillas, because of their early contact with the Spanish culture and civilization, tended to borrow more words from the Spanish language rather than from the English. At a later time, however, when they had closer contact with Americans, they also borrowed words from their language, although on a limited basis. Most of the borrowed words have sounds which are Jicarilla. Therefore, some words can hardly be distinguished as Spanish or English. This booklet lists 120 words in Jicarilla which are of Spanish or English origin or show some aspects of their influence. The words cover those aspects of life and fields of activity where the borrowed words seemed likely to originate, i.e., food and drink, plants and animals, social life, clothing, education, and other miscellaneous areas. (Author/NQ)

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dóɁno-horno

magéelo-vaquero

báango-banco

gojíiya-cuchillo

dóolo-toro

góɁdi-corte

SPANISH WORDS in the JICARILLA LANGUAGE

lóosi-dulce

yábi-llave

kéesda-fiesta

domádi-tomate

guɁjón-colchón

sandíya-sandia

gaˈé-café

góla-oro

niwóoso-nego

raja

bino-vin

uez

bóó-bull

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SPANISH WORDS IN THE JICARILLA LANGUAGE

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SPANISH WORDS IN THE JICARILLA LANGUAGE

From the point of view of vocabulary there are few "pure" languages. Many of the world's languages add to their word supply by borrowing from other languages.

Word borrowing is a process in which speakers of a language borrow or adopt words from another language. The reason for this comes from the necessity of talking about new things, concepts, and ways of life.

The movement of the English people to the New World created a "word" problem. When they migrated to North America they saw people, plants and animals they had never seen before. They found the land inhabited by Indians, a people very different from them. To them, the Indians had strange customs.

Their clothing, food and ways of living were vastly different from theirs. Inevitably as contact with the Indian people increased, Indian words, expressions and terms filtered into the English language.

Today there are states, cities, towns, rivers, lakes and bays with Indian names. Words such as powwow, caucus, toboggan, pumpkin, squash, wigwam, moccasin, and so forth are still part of the English vocabulary.

On the other hand, the Indians also borrowed words from those people who came to the New World. The Jicarillas, because of their early contact with the Spanish culture and civilization, tended to borrow more words from the Spanish language rather than from the English. At a later time, however, when they had closer contact with Americans, they also borrowed words from their language, although on a limited basis. The reason for this may be that the

Jicarillas were learning to speak the language itself and had acquired English as a second language.

It must be noted that most of the borrowed words have sounds which are Jicarilla. The explanation for this is that a non-native speaker of another language would tend to approximate the sounds of the other language rather than reproduce them entirely in this language. For example: an English speaker who has no contact with the Spanish language would pronounce words such as Dulce and Jicarilla as Dŭlce and Jicarela rather than Do͞olce and Hicariyah. The same occurrence happens when a Jicarilla speaker would pronounce a word in another language. He would remake or re-form the word in terms of the general sound structure of his language. For example : the English words secretary and ration become segidéeɣ and lasóon; the Spanish words fiesta and martes become kéesda and máɣdis, etc.

Thus it was natural that many of the borrowed words in Jicarilla underwent a radical change in form and pronunciation at the time and in the process of borrowing. The change was considerable in most words and as a result some words can hardly be distinguished as Spanish or English as shown in the examples above.

The words in Jicarilla which are of Spanish or English origin or show some aspects of their influence are listed below. It is certain that the list does not cover all the borrowed words because they were compiled as recalled. However, there was an attempt to cover those aspects of life and fields of activity where the borrowed words seemed likely to originate. These include food and drink, plants and animals, social life, clothing, education and other miscellaneous areas.

Jicarilla	Spanish	English
adóoli	atole	blue corn meal mush
alalóos	arroz	rice
alíisa	liza (deslizar)	sled
aɣmáá	firma	signature
asɛ́idi/isɛ́idi	aceite	oil
as'dóoha	estufa	stove
awɛ́elo*	abuelo	grandfather/clown*
awɔ́o'	abogado	lawyer
awóoha	aguja	needle
Awóoshdo	agosto	August
bɔ́ala	bala	bullet
bɔ́ango	banco	bank
bɔ́aso	vaso	glass

*Awɛ́elo originated from Spanish abuelo but it means clown in Jicarilla. In those days grandfather's clothing resembled a clown's or vice versa. The clown here is not the circus clown but the sacred clown of Jicarilla ceremonies.

báayoo	paño	scarf
banáasa	ganancia	gain/interest
basáá	pasar(de tiempo)	to loaf
béela	pera	pear
béeso	peso	dollar
bíiɁ	automóvil	automobile
bino	vino	wine
biyóon	billón	billion
boɁdóon	bulto	small haystack
bóó (from English)		bull
bóosdi	poste	post
dáasa	taza	cup
dabáago	tabaco	tobacco
dadóoɁ	doctor	doctor
déda	tienda	store
déeh	té	tea
déeɁbidi	intérprete	interpreter
disdíigo	testigo	witness

díinda	tinta	paint
dogáiyo	tocayo	two persons of the same name
domádi	tomate	tomato
dóolo	toro	bull
gáadolo	cuatro de julio	Fourth of July
gáambo	campo	camp
gabóon		coupon

(The word gabóon probably originated from English. At the time of the establishment of the reservation coupons were issued to the Jicarillas by store managers to allow them to purchase food and goods on credit.)

gadóon	botón	button
ga'ée	café	coffee
gahóon	cajón	box
gaɁníilo/galníiro	carnero	sheep(ram)
gamíisa	camisa	shirt
gandíina	cantina	bar/lounge
gasdighá́á́	castigo	punishment

gayóodi	coyote	coyote
géeso	queso	cheese
godéiya	botella	bottle
gojáala	cuchara	spoon
gojíiya*	cuchillo	knife
golée lo	correo	mail
goɁjóon	colchón	mattress
gomisóon*		commissioner*
gondáo	candado	lock
góoɁba	culpa	guilt
góoɁdi	corte	court
góoɁja	colcha	quilt
háasbila*	hospital	hospital*
hawóon	jabón	soap
hóoniyoo	junio	June
howóon	fogón	chimney
hwéeɁdi	fuerte	strong
hwéez	juez	judge

*Gojiiya is a term applied to the Jicarilla Apache Feast which occurs every September.

hwíłtso	con fuerzo	by force
hwishgi*		whiskey*
ílo	hielo	ice
isdámba	estampa	stamp
isyaldéba*		scraper*
isyuéla	escuela	school
jalégo	chaleco	vest
jiba	chiva	goat
jíili	chili	chili
kéesda	fiesta	
láí	ley	law
lalámbiri	alambre	wire
lasdóon	listón	ribbon
lasóon*		ration*
Lóonahóó	Rio Navajo	Navajo River

lóosa	bulsa	pocket
lóosi	dulce	candy/sweet
máagina	máquina	machine
máaɣ	malo	bad
magéelo	vaquero	cowboy
maláaha	baraja	cards
maɣdíiyo	martillo	hammer
máaɣdis	martes	Tuesday
manáagi	almanaque	almanac/calendar
mandáana	ventana	window
mandagíiya	mantequilla	butter
mandéela	bandera	flag
mansáana	manzana	apple
masdéeɣ	pastel	pie
masdéiya	mesteño	mustang
masdóoɣ	pastor	shepherd
mazhíiɣ	barril	barrel

méiyas	medias	stockings
mfiX	mil	thousand
miyén	millón	million
neesfida	necesidad	necessary
niwóosa	negocio	business
ochowéeda	Noche Buena	December

(In Jicarilla ochoweeda actually means the month of December)

óXno	horno	oven
óolo	oro	gold
óowa/óoba	uva	grape
oyéelo/oyéero	Ollero	potter
páala	pala	shovel
páapa	papa	potato

sandíiya	sandia	watermelon
séeɁgc	circo	reservation
segidéeɁ*		secretary*
sigáalo	cigarro	cigar
siɁbéesa	cerveza	beer

(Present-day usage includes either sik'as'i ---the cold one--- or maasho'i ---the one with the frost. This variation may be due to modern refrigeration.)

sindáo	centavo	cent
soɁdáo	soldado	soldier
sóogala	azucar	sugar

(Shoqi is a later variation. This usage probably crignated from English sugar.)

tróogah	troca	truck
yáabi	llave	key
yanéelo/yanéero	Llanero	the Plains

yíishbila	véspera	eve

(Jicarilla usage is limited only to the eve of the Apache feast or Gojiiya.)

yos	Dios	God

Note: *The words comisóon for commissioner, háasbila for hospital, hwishqi for whiskey, isqaléeba for scraper and lasóon for ration may have originated from English for historical reasons.

Reference :

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